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The specimen has been deposited in the National Museum under the accession number 68624.

The complete measurements of *Pteroplatea altavela*, Woods Hole, Mass., July 10, 1922, are as follows: length, tip of snout to end of tail, 81 cm.; length, tip of snout to posterior margin of disk, 63 cm.; breadth, 124 cm.; anterior margin of disk (direct), 75 cm.; posterior margin of disk (direct), 60 cm.; tip of snout to eye, 13 cm.; longitudinal diameter of eye, 1.3 cm.; transverse diameter of eye, 1.0 cm.; interocular width, 13.3 cm.; width between spiracles, 10.5 cm.; width of mouth, 11 cm.; width between nostrils, 8.7 cm.; tip of snout to mouth, 11 cm.; tip of snout to line between inner angles of first gill slits, 17 cm.; tip of snout to line between inner angles of fifth gill slits, 25 cm.; tip of snout to vent, 57 cm.; length of spines (exposed), 7.5 cm.; length of claspers, 10 cm.; length of ventrals, 13 cm.; length of tentacle, 1.0 cm.—R. E. COKER, *U. S. Bureau of Fisheries*.

## TEKLA, A NEW GENUS OF BLENNIES, AND OTHER NOTES.

The following additional notes are based on a collection recently presented to the American Museum of Natural History by Mr. Louis L. Mowbray.

*Cantherines pullus*. One from Bermuda measures 420 mm. in total length, depth 1.6 in length to base of caudal, spines on peduncle preceded by a brush of stiff hairs. It is a dried specimen, uniform brownish in color, pectoral and vertical fins pale, a saddle shaped mark vaguely indicated extending downward from the back. A second specimen is 290 mm. in total length, depth 1.9 in length to base of caudal, color in alcohol uniform dark, vertical fins and peduncular spines pale. The following color notes were made thereon by the writer when it was alive in the Miami (Fla.) Aquarium, Feb. 4,

1921. "General color dusky, caudal black; dorsal and anal, and rim of eye yellow; sides with rather large pale spots, largest in a saddle shaped area, in front of dorsal and extending down on sides; a spot in the mid-line of the back in this saddle, and all spots in the saddle white whereas elsewhere they are yellow; the saddle also more or less suffused with paler, greyish; yellow spines on peduncle." These two specimens are obviously the same or very closely related. The disparity in depth appears to be due to latitude in movement for the pubic bone. They both have the forehead concave. It is also reasonable to place with them smaller fish lacking peduncular spines noted by the writer as *Pseudomonacanthus amphioxys* (1912, Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., xxxi, p. 110, Dominica and Bermuda, and 1921, l. c. XLIV, p. 24, Turks Island) following H. M. Smith who makes *P. amphioxys* a synonym of *C. pullus* (1914, Science, n.s., 40, p. 815). All material examined has the ventral spine ankylosed to the tip of the pubic bone, as described for *Cantherines sandwichensis* instead of movable as in *Monaacanthus hispidus*, *ciliatus*, etc., but lacks evident second dorsal spine present in *sandwichensis*. *Cantherines pullus* as here recognized, is a variable species which may be separable into several on the basis of concavity of forehead outline, peduncular brush, etc., as attempted by Poey. On the other hand it shows disparities with certain descriptions which variously mention moveable ventral spine, second dorsal spine, and striped instead of spotted coloration, to suggest the existence of another similar but quite distinct species of which no specimen has been examined by the writer.

*Alutera schoepfi*. A young individual 43 mm. in length to base of caudal, from gulf weed at the surface, Key West, April 12, 1918, is elongate, depth 3.7 in this standard length. To identify it with precision it was advisable to check up the fin count in

this species, and fifteen larger specimens in the American Museum of Natural History's collections were examined. They had dorsal soft rays 35 (4 individuals), 36 (3), 37 (4), 38 (4); anal soft rays 37 (2), 39 (3), 40 (4), 41 (6). The smallest of them were already somewhat elongate; two of 120 mm., with depth 2.6 and 2.7, one of 98 mm. with the same 2.8.

*Auchenopterus fasciatus*. A small individual, 30 mm. to base of caudal from near Miami, Florida, has dorsal rays all spinous, lacking the single last soft ray generally characteristic of the genus. A slightly larger specimen (33 mm.) in our collections from Key West, February 28, 1910, Tekla Expedition, shows the same condition. Reference to Steindachner's type description of *fasciatus* confirms the identity of these specimens. It should be noted that Steindachner does not specifically mention the soft ray though he places *fasciatus* in the same genus with his *marmoratus* which, by comparison with an excellent type figure, is unquestionably the same as our *marmoratus* material which possesses such a ray. This difference seems of generic value, and there being apparently no generic name available for it, Tekla,<sup>1</sup> new genus, is here proposed, with *Cremnobates fasciatus* Steindachner as type.—J. T. NICHOLS, *New York, N. Y.*

## A NOTE ON THE BREEDING HABITS OF TEGU.

In a large (about 50 cm. diameter) termite nest, located in a fork of a small tree about seven feet from the ground, were found six eggs of the Tegu (*Tupinambis nigropunctatus* Spix). The nest had been cut open, with the idea of using it as fish bait, and was brought to the Tropical Research Station in British Guiana by a native, on June 26. One of

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<sup>1</sup> Named for the yacht "Tekla."